

Our Purpose

To examine Arizona Special Education State Board 401 rules, to propose rules that are clear, instructive, and aligned to the IDEA, and to provide guidance for implementation.

Core Team

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Advocate & SEAP Member

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Arizona Department of Education
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Washington Elem School District

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Primavera Online High School

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Director of Special Education
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Lorrane McPherson
Treasurer, AZCEC

Kimberly Peaslee,
Parent & Chairperson of CAC & SEAP
Member

Heidi Sinkovic
Director of ESS, The Leona Group

Chris Tiffany, Raising Special Kids &
SEAP Member

Our Group Norms

- We engage in active listening
- We seek to understand
- We strive for a collective impact
- We honor the communication plan
- We support working for the greater good
- Our communication is timely and accurate
- We use rubrics to evaluate our work
- We need to learn and “unlearn”
- Reflection is critical to our success

Consensus--A two tiered approach:

The Core Team will work toward unanimous consensus on every issue. If not an unanimous consensus the group will use a supermajority vote (11/13).

Rule Committee – Core Team June 23 & 24, 2014 Communiqué

Core Team Attendees: 6-23-24 Sarah Gamble, Wendy Collison, Kris Hartsuff, Beth Conran, Kim Peaslee, Craig Carter, Mollie Casson, Christopher Tiffany, Kristina Blackledge, Lorrane McPherson

6-24-14 Sarah Gamble, Wendy Collison, Kris Hartsuff, Beth Conran, Kim Peaslee, Craig Carter, Mollie Casson, Christopher Tiffany, Lorrane McPherson, Jan Cawthorne

ADE Support Staff: Angela Denning, William McQueary, Maura Mall, Lisa Aaroe, Carrie O’Brien-Dispute Resolution

Meeting Location: ADE on Central

To send comments: AZBoardRuleCommitteeInBox@azed.gov

You’ve got to think about big things while you’re doing small things, so that all the small things go in the right direction.

GOAL for These Two Days: Finish the draft of Initial and Reevaluation process to be prepared for sending to the Key Participants for feedback.

What we did.

- We broke into small groups to work on draft rule language for initial, reevaluation, and evaluation procedures.
- We came together to refine the language. Extensive discussion was held about the measure used to qualify the “60 day” timeline – school days, business days, or calendar days – and the length of time between informed consent and development of the IEPs.
- We engaged in extensive discussion about defining “informed consent” and the kinds of information that should be presented and discussed with parents to obtain the signature.
- We determined that we should consider developing a format for rule writing to help frame our work and perhaps increase efficiency
- We determined that AZ rule does not have a separate section addressing Independent Educational Evaluation and eligibility. We discussed that we will add these section for clarification in AZ rule especially in the areas requiring medical certification.
- On 6/23/14 we called John Copenhaver with questions. To respond, he’ll get back to the group with samples of practices from other states.
- There was no feedback from the field via the ESS Inbox to review.
- We looked at multiple states and focused extensively on language from Utah, Idaho, and Montana as a basis of comparison to Arizona

What we learned.

- We learned that AZ rule does not include eligibility criteria for all IDEA categories of eligibility.
- We learned that the current AZ rule that explicitly requires the 60 day timeline for initial evaluation does not apply to reevaluation.
- We learned that Arizona 30 day extension is not clearly aligned with IDEA’s examples of reasons for extensions. The committee is seeking legal opinion and information from other states.
- We learned there was a lot of variation from state to state on definitions and eligibility criteria.

What we accomplished.

- We completed a draft of proposed rule for Initial and Reevaluation to be sent out to the field for comment.
- We completed side by side comparison charts of eligibility from Montana, Idaho, and Utah to be used for developing Arizona criteria.
- We set the agenda for the next meeting, July 18, 2014 to finalize the initial evaluation, reevaluation and begin to work in eligibility.
- Future meeting times will be 8:00-2:00 pm and the dates are August 18, September 12, October 3, October 20, November 14, Tuesday December 2 and December 15.

Notes:

Rule Making Core Committee June 23 & 24, 2014 Communiqué

Next Steps:

We set the agenda for our next meeting on July 18th from 8:00 am -2:00 pm.

- Determine language for use of “business day”, “school day”, time lines from IDEA, using information from IDEA and other states.
- Complete a draft of Eligibility and IEP.
- Prepare for large group meeting to share Evaluation Draft and get input on Eligibility and IEP
- Review Feedback/Anecdotes from the Field.

We Want to Hear from You!

Please send your comments to AZBoardRuleCommitteeInBox@azed.gov . We look forward to hearing from the community at large, Key Advisors and Extended Partners on our work to date and future agenda items. These documents along with key documents are posted on the Director’s Corner at:

<http://www.azed.gov/special-education/category/directors-corner/>.

Notes: